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Rep. Zepnick Statement on Milwaukee Bucks Arena Signing

Zepnick's leadership shines through

Madison – Rep. Josh Zepnick today joined the Milwaukee Bucks, stakeholders throughout the state, and other elected officials at the signing of the Milwaukee Arena deal. Representative Zepnick has been a leading voice on necessary components and improvements to the Arena deal, and working to ensure that the project provides good paying jobs in construction and in the development surrounding the new sports facility.

"The economic benefits of a new arena are large. For instance, new good paying construction jobs and end use agreements can be a significant benefit for our community, which needs more jobs and economic development. From the beginning of this debate, I emphasized the need for good paying jobs to be part of this project, and I'm proud that the Bucks and others have agreed with me.

"Democracy won, secrecy failed. What started as a behind the scenes exclusive process, melted down and allowed for a more collaborative and inclusive approach to spending taxpayer resources. I have been on the forefront in demanding an open process since last year. My constituents expect and deserve that.

"Further, this project is not just about an arena for basketball games. It's about conventions, concerts, and shows to utilize a new vibrant entertainment district. It's about good public transit to get people to the venues and further connecting Milwaukee's neighborhoods. These investments are vital to not just Milwaukee, but Wisconsin. I look forward to continuing to work with Mayor Barrett, County Executive Abele, as well as the Milwaukee Common Council and Milwaukee County Board to make this project, and the subsequent development a success."